

GERMANS SUGGEST WARSHIP CONVOYS

Vessels Under Protection Declared "On Honor" of Sponsors for Them.

POLICY IS NOT ABATED

Absolute Necessity for Obtaining Food, Says Admiral Behncke, of Marines, Permits No Mercy in Sea War Zone.

BERLIN, Feb. 16.—(By wireless to Skyville, N. Y.)—Admiral Behncke, of the Marine Department, has made a statement which will be considered by the German government as the official position of the German navy at the present time.

"Up to the present time the German navy has followed the London declaration of the stipulations of the Paris treaty, on which the conduct of the war at sea had been based before the London declaration.

Right to Obtain Food Asserted.

"In waging this commercial warfare England had in view the subjugation of Germany by starvation. Germany had in every way sought to bring the attention of the neutral powers and all others to the necessity she was under to obtain food for her civilian population, which she is right under the laws of war. No results could be obtained from her efforts.

"Since the shutting off of food supplies had now come to a point where Germany had no longer sufficient food to feed her people, it became necessary for her to bring England to terms by the use of force. Germany knows that by the use of the submarine force she can be placed in a position where food will be lacking in the country where food is necessary to her life as a nation and the lives of her people depend on putting this campaign into action, and she must do so.

"The difficulties lying in the way of this campaign have been largely connected with the care which it is desired to give to neutral ships and to the lives of those on board all commercial ships, whether neutral or belonging to the enemy.

"First—In arming her merchant ships with guns for self-defense England adopted a policy against which Germany strongly protests. The United States took the British point of view. It is not possible for submarines to approach British merchant ships and make examinations without exposing themselves to gunfire or bomb attack, against which a submarine boat will be helpless.

"Second—England has advised her merchant fleet to fly neutral flags, to cover up names and change stacks, to escape the consequences of their nationality. This plan was designed to bring Germany into conflict with other nations.

Life Depends on Effectiveness.

"Germany does not wish in the slightest degree to harm American or other neutral ships or their cargoes, unless carrying contraband of war. She is, however, in a position where her life depends on her putting into effect the only means she has of saving herself. She must and will use this means.

"Commanding officers of submarine boats have been given orders to make every effort to safeguard neutrals, in spite of the precautions which submarines could take—without the danger of being destroyed themselves—the possibility was noted that neutral ships might, through error or accident, be destroyed. For this reason a strong warning was issued.

"In addition, the English coast has been mined by the British themselves for protective reasons. This would be mined by the Germans as an act of offensive warfare. Ships were therefore in danger from mines.

"In spite of the great effect the Admiralty staff feels the use of the submarines will have in bringing the war to a rapid close, the Admiralty does not wish to put into effect the detriment of neutral commerce and the rights of nations on the high seas. They have therefore declared that if a declaration of London without modifications, or by the treaty of Paris, whereby food supplies necessary for the civil population can be freely brought into Germany, the whole matter of submarine blockade will be dropped by Germany.

"This proposal has been transmitted through diplomatic channels. It is accepted the matter will be no longer one provocative of trouble between the United States and Germany."

Admiral Behncke called Commander Gherard's attention to the fact that Great Britain, when by her proclamation she closed the North Sea to American ships bound for the neutral country of Holland, but compelled the ships to pass through certain channels, in an English pilot boat, and under search for contraband of war at the hands of officers of British warships.

Safe Channel Suggested.

Admiral Behncke then said that Germany was prepared to suggest to the United States an even freer and safer method of passage for American ships bound either through the channel of English ports or directly that several American warships would wait in some port on the southwest coast of Ireland, and when communicated with by wireless an American merchantman, one of them should proceed to the place indicated and convey the merchantman through that portion of the sea which Germany, following the example of Great Britain, has declared to be dangerous.

"Of course," said the Admiral, "ships under convoy, by the rules of international law, are not subject to search, but the country to which they belong is upon its honor as it were, to see that they do not carry contraband of war."

"American warships have distinctive masts and are well known to the officers of the German navy, and either by night or day they and the vessels under their convoy would be respected by German submarines.

"This is a safe method to follow for American ships which desire to enter those portions of the sea proclaimed dangerous by the German government from the rule adopted by Great Britain, with reference to American ships passing through the channel of English ports, instead of being compelled to enter a British port, take a British pilot and be searched by officers of a British warship, would be permitted to pass unmolested to their destination without being subjected to search, the Imperial German government being willing, of course, to accept the implied word of honor of the United States that the ships carry no contraband of war."

SITUATION DEEPLY STIRS

(Continued From First Page.)

even in incidents relatively unimportant. For example, no reply whatever has

FRENCH CAPTURE 2 MILES OF TRENCHES

Decided Gain in Champagne District Is Reported by Paris War Office.

BRITISH REGAIN GROUND

Spirited Combat Develops South of Ypres—Infantry Actions Continue in Argonne—Artillery Battle Goes On.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—The official communication issued by the War Office tonight says that German trenches (three kilometers) in extent (nearly two miles) have been taken in Champagne, to the northwest of Perthes and north of Beausejour. The text follows:

"Along the whole front the day of February 15 has been favorable for us. In Belgium there has been an artillery engagement.

"A small French squadron has bombarded a German aviation park at Ghietelles. A small British squadron has bombarded Ostend.

"To the south of Ypres the British army are masters of a number of trenches where for two days a rather spirited combat has developed.

Progress Made Near Rheims.

"Between the Oise and the Aisne near Bailly an efficient shelling has been carried out by our artillery against gatherings of troops, automobile convoys and bomb throwers.

"In the neighborhood of Rheims we have made progress near Leivre.

"In Champagne on the front which stretches from the northwest of Perthes to the north of Beausejour we have captured about three kilometers of German trenches and have taken several hundred prisoners, among these five officers.

"In the Argonne infantry actions have occurred from Le Four de Paris to the west of Bourneilles; the fighting continues under favorable conditions.

Enemy's Blockhouses Taken.

"To the northwest of Pont-a-Mousson we have occupied several of the enemy's blockhouses in the forest of Le Prete."

"The earlier statement said: 'The British troops recaptured yesterday the two parts of the trench which they had lost the night before between St. Eloy and the Ypres Canal. On the front of the French army the day of February 15 was, on the whole, calm. No infantry actions have been reported and particularly important successes of our artillery are confirmed.'

VIENNA, via Amsterdam to London, Feb. 16.—A Cabinet order which the use of barley after February 15 for producing malt. The decree aims at securing the available stocks of barley as a substitute for wheat.

LUMBERMEN IN CONVENTION

Twelve Hundred Western Yards Represented at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 16.—Delegates representing 1200 yards in 10 Western states arrived in San Francisco today to attend the annual convention of the Western Retail Lumbermen's Association, which will open early tomorrow and will continue through next Friday.

The convention will be the first of 500 scheduled to convene in San Francisco during 1915 and will take place in the new auditorium in the civic center. Addresses of welcome will be given tomorrow by Hiram W. Johnson, Governor of California, James Rolph, Mayor of San Francisco, and C. C. Moore, director-general of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition.

President Taggart, of Great Falls, Mont., will preside.

TRADE BALANCE CONTINUES

Exports for Week Exceed Imports by \$30,320,607, Showing Decrease.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Foreign trade for the week ended February 13 netted the United States a favorable balance of \$30,320,607, according to returns from the 13 principal customs districts announced today by the Department of Commerce. Compared with the preceding week, this was a decrease in the balance of \$6,515,815.

Exports for the week were \$54,185,450 and imports \$23,864,843, compared with \$59,581,106 and \$22,448,880 respectively for the week of February 5.

Cotton exports amounted to 285,549 bales, making the total for the past ten weeks 2,991,981 bales.

MORE PROBATION IS ASKED

California Prison Board Makes Recommendation to Judges.

SACRAMENTO, Feb. 16.—Judges in California courts are being urged by members of the State Board of Prison Directors to extend probation to first offenders in every case where there appears to be a chance of reform.

Crowded conditions in both state prisons which make it difficult to house the steady stream of incoming criminals and make it impossible to handle the less hardened cases in such a way that there is a chance for them to retain their self-respect have made this action necessary, according to Board members.

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PILLAGE IS NOT PROVED

FRENCH COURT SETS GERMAN SURGEONS AND NURSES FREE.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—The German surgeons and nurses who were sentenced by the permanent court-martial late in November to terms of imprisonment ranging from three years to one month for alleged pillage at Peronne, September 15, and who appealed from the decision of the court, were retried today and acquitted. The decision of the court was that there was an absence of premeditated proof of the alleged theft.

When the hospital at Peronne was captured by the French, the bulky nature of the baggage of the German nurses and surgeons aroused the suspicions of the French army officials. A search was ordered and it was alleged that in the baggage of Surgeon-Major Collins, who, with Surgeon-Major Wohlfart, was in charge of the hospital, there were found three Tanagra statuettes with labels of the Peronne museum attached to them. In the baggage of the nurses it was charged that there were pieces of silk carpets and fine linens.

The nurses asserted, it was said, that these things had been given them by the German sisters in appreciation of their kindness to the French wounded. Surgeons Collins and Wohlfart each were sentenced to a year's imprisonment.

Michigan Democrats for Wilson.

LANSING, Mich., Feb. 16.—Michigan Democrats pledged to President Wilson their support for renomination and

NATIONAL THEATER

PARK-STARK-WEST PARK

Near Washington Open Noon to 11 P. M.

TODAY AND THURSDAY CHARLIE CHAPLIN "A Night Out"

This is absolutely the funniest hit of all time. See it at once. At great expense the management has secured this feature comedy until and including Saturday night. Thousands requested it.

The Swindler—2 Act Kalem with Alice Joyce playing lead. Splendid.

My Lady's Boudoir—Romantic Comedy.

Dancer's Ruse—Intense Drama.

Miss Babe Egan, Rag Time Violinist.

Mr. Carney and Mr. Ingram, Organists.

Friday and Saturday Cissy Fitzgerald in "How Cissy Made Good"; Hearst-Selig Weekly; Charlie Chaplin, "A Night Out."

re-election at their state convention here today. Republican opposition to the ship-purchase bill was denounced in resolutions as un-American.

Bridge Engineers' Fee Allowed.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Feb. 16.—(Special)—Eight thousand dollars was allowed to Wadgill & Harrington, engineers for the Columbia River interstate

Majestic THEATER

A Double Show Today Today and Balance of This Week WILTON LACKAYE



—IN—

Israel Zangwill's Masterpiece

"Children of the Ghetto"

TODAY—LAST DAY—TODAY

Mary Ryan and Original Cast in Cohan & Harris Broadway Success

"STOP THIEF"

Coming Sunday—A Sensation

"THE ESCAPE"

10c—Admission—10c

STAR THEATER

Great 4-Day Bill Starting Today Every Girl

A great morality play. Tempted by "Vice" "Every Girl" marries "Love." A two-act drama. Featuring Mary Fuller.

Terrors of the Jungle

Vicious and untamed lions and tigers lend realism to great 2-act drama.

The Awaited Hour

Violet Mercereau in a prize sensational drama. "There could not be a picture with more punch. Imagine a man 'put away' by another man in order that THIS OTHER COULD WIN THE IMPRISONED MAN'S WIFE." A vivid two-act drama.

NEXT SUNDAY

Great blended bill, headed by "Chanted Lives."

10c 11 A. M. to 11 P. M.

The Best Place to See THE EXPLOITS OF ELAINE

WHY not go where the best people go—a well-ventilated, roomy, comfort-inviting place?

The theatres where the best features are shown *always* (not only once in a blue moon), are also the theatres that makes you feel at home. Here is a *welcome* for you—in the form not only of words but service.

It will even be worth your while to go out of your way to come here.

Booked Through Pathe Exchange

392 Burnside St., Portland, Or.

Stories were written by A. B. Reeve. Scenarios were written by Chas. Goddard. Three Legitimate Stars in the cast—Arnold Daly, Sheldon Lewis, Pearl White. Produced under the direction of Leo Wharton in Pathe studios and photographed by Pathe Camera Men.

PORTLAND	Days	Starting
National Theater	Wed. and Thurs.	
Nob Hill Theater	Mon. and Tues.	
Woodlawn Theater	Sun. and Mon.	
Union-Ave. Theater	Tuesday	
Alhambra Theater	Wed. and Thurs.	Feb. 17, 18.
Powell Valley Theat'r	Sunday	Feb. 21.
Isis Sellwood Theat'r	Sunday	Feb. 28.
Hawthorne Theater	Wed. and Thurs.	Feb. 17-18.
Laurel Theater	Fri. and Sat.	Feb. 19-20
Isis (Lents) Theater	Sunday	Feb. 21.
Elite (Rose City Park)	Mon. and Tues.	Feb. 22, 23.
Princess (Arleta)	Wednesday	Feb. 24.
Scenic (Montavilla)	Sunday	Feb. 28.
Circle Theater	Wednesday	Mar. 3.
Burnside Theater	Thursday	Mar. 4.
Victoria Theater	Friday	Mar. 5.
Home Theater	Sunday	Mar. 7.
Grant	Sunday	Feb. 21.
Derby (Kenton)	Fri. and Sat.	Mar. 26, 27

Town—	Theater—	Days—	Starting—
Medford, Or.	Star	Every Mon. and Tues.	
Astoria, Or.	Jewel	Every Wed. and Thurs.	
Forest Grove, Or.	Star	Every Fri. and Sat.	
Roseburg, Or.	Majestic	Every Friday	Feb. 19
Grants Pass, Or.	Bijou	Every Tues. and Wed.	Feb. 23, 24.
Gresham, Or.	Opera House	Every Saturday	Feb. 27.
Canas, Wn.	Grand	Every Sat. and Sun.	Mar. 6-7.
Prineville, Or.	Lyric	Every Saturday	Mar. 20.
McMinnville, Or.	Rainbow	Every Saturday	
Oregon City, Or.	Rainbow	Every Mon. and Tues.	
Eugene, Or.	Rex	Every Wed. and Thurs.	
Klam'th Falls, Or.	Star	Every Monday	Feb. 15.
Chehalis, Wash.	Dream	Every Fri. and Sat.	Feb. 26, 27.
Lebanon, Or.	Kuhn	Every Tues.	Mar. 16.
Pendleton, Or.	Orpheum	Every Fri. and Sat.	Mar. 18-19.
Vancouver, Wn.	Palace	Every Mon. and Tues.	
Walla Walla, Wn.	Arcade	Every Fri. and Sat.	
Baker, Or.	Empire	Every Wed. and Thurs.	
Ontario, Or.	Dreamland	Every Fri. and Sat.	
Centralia, Wn.	Grand	Every Tues. and Wed.	Feb. 16, 17.
Woodburn, Or.	Bungalow	Every Friday	Feb. 19.
Salem, Or.	Bligh	Every Mon. and Tues.	Feb. 22, 23.
Hillsboro, Or.	Grand	Every Wed. and Thurs.	Feb. 24, 25.
St. Helens, Or.	Columbia	Every Friday	Feb. 26.

Town—	Theater—	Starting—
Marshfield, Or.	Grand	
Bandon, Or.	Grand	
Coquille, Or.	Grand	
North Bend, Or.	Joy	Week of March 3
Myrtle Point, Or.	Unique	

MARLEY 2 1/2 IN. DEVON 2 1/4 IN. ARROW COLLARS

2 FOR 25 CENTS

CLUETT PEABODY & CO. INC. TROY, N.Y.

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Cigarettes fifteen years ago — are smokers of TURKISH TROPHIES Cigarettes today!

Makers of the Highest Grade Turkish and Egyptian Cigarettes in the World

Cures Grip—Prevents Grip. LAXATIVE BRONO QUININE removes the mucus. There is only one "BRONO QUININE". Look for signature of E. W. GROVE, 25c.

Before you marry see "The Escape." —Ady.